

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PASADENA

DIVISION OF BIOLOGY
KERCKHOFF LABORATORIES OF BIOLOGY

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Dr. J. Lederberg
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Dear Josh:

Dr. Vogt is not planning to publish any of her findings in the foreseeable future, because they are too incomplete. She has discontinued working on this problem because she has taken on a job in animal virology in connection with Dulbecco's work on tissue culture plaques. She wrote this summary for the benefit of those working intimately in this field. Other copies are going to Cavalli, Hayes, and Newcombe, and Wollman.

I would be very grateful to you for any comment you could make on her findings, particularly on the finding that two phases seem to be involved in the formation of recombinants, of which the first seems to be indifferent nutritionally while the second is exacting. I have suggested to one of my students, Dale Kaiser, (a very good one), that he follow this up (for his thesis) in the hope of clarifying the biochemical angle and in the hope of greatly increasing the prototroph field. However, I see from your letters that you have accomplished the second goal by a different approach. Now there certainly is no harm in accomplishing one goal in two ways, but I would like to be sure that the two ways are different and that there will be no competitive nonsense involved.

Another man here, a Rockefeller fellow, R.K. Appleyard, has started to work on the recombinational aspects of prophage, hoping to use marked lambdas. He and Kaiser have now moved into a new lab, and Dr. Vogt has her desk there, too. It is the lab in which Ellis and I made our first One-step growth experiments in 1937 and I hope this is a good omen for the new start. Your and Cavalli's MS had been confiscated by them before I had a chance to read it. Tomorrow we will have a seminar on it. Thank you very much for sending it.

Sincerely,

Max

M. Delbrück

MD:ah

P.S. Appleyard just showed me his correspondence of a month ago with Esther. He is now writing up a longish statement for her of his experiments to date and of his plans. This will follow in a few days. It certainly would be nice to increase the personal contact. I hope this will happen at the latest next summer in CSH

12